

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 045636-5033-10
Application No. 09/555,640

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Nguyen, Q. T. *et al.*

Application No.: 09/555,640

Filed: August 10, 2000

For: *Erythrovirus and Its Applications*

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Group Art Unit: 1648

Examiner: Parkin, J.

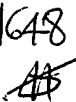
RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the restriction requirement in the Office Action dated June 12, 2002 (Paper No. 8), Applicants respectfully elect, with traverse, to prosecute Group I, claims 1-6 and 10, drawn to isolated nucleic acids, fragments thereof and primer pairs. The due date for reply, with a one month extension of time, is August 12, 2002.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement is respectfully requested. The Office Action restricted pending claims 1-14, 16-21, 24-37 into the following groups:

1. Group I, claims 1-6 and 10, drawn to nucleic acids, fragments thereof and primer pairs.
2. Group II, claims 7-9, drawn to variant erythrovirus or plasmids encoding the variant.
3. Group III, claims 11-14, 16 and 24-27, drawn to diagnostic methods employing various nucleotide sequences.

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